GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3810
ANSWERED ON:08.04.2003
RASHTRIYA CHEMICAL AND FERTILIZERS LTD., MUMBAI
DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA;PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry have taken note of Public Interest Litigation filed inMumbai High Court by the Officers Association of RCF, Mumbai against the Petroleum Ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof including observations made by the Government in the matter;

(c) whether the Ministries of Chemical and Fertilizers, Petroleum and RCF have sorted out the issue of gas supply;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Rashtriya Chemical Fertilizers (RCF) is facing certain genuineproblems like Feed Stock Natural Gas Limitation and Inter-Corporate loans, which have affected the performance of RCF despite being awarded with Mini Ratna status; and

(f) if so, the steps taken by the Government to help the Department of Fertilizers and RCF to overcome these difficulties?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHHATTRA PAL SINGH)

(a) to (f) : Yes, Sir. Pursuant to the directions of the Hon'ble High Court atBombay in Writ Petition No.3161 of 2002 between RCF Officers Association versus Union of India & others, a meeting was convened between the Ministry ofPetroleum & Natural Gas and the Department of Fertilizers wherein it was decided that the available gas in the Uran region will be distributed among the consumers on pro-rata basis with special dispensation for a limited period to the Maharashtra State Electricity Board.

RCF has given Inter-Corporate Loans to Fertilizer Corporation of India(FCI), Hindustan Fertilizers Corporation Ltd. (HFC), Indiar Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (IDPL) and Smith Stainstreet & Pharmaceuticals Ltd(SSPL), which are Central Government Public Sector Undertakings and have either been declared sick or closed down. While the FCI has paid its loan to RCFunder a settlement, other PSUs have not been able to repay the loans to RCF due to paucity of funds.